



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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260 Properties Signed Up for Fire Debris Removal

County officials today announced 260 of the 529 properties that were destroyed or damaged by the October 2007 fires are enrolled in the County Fire Debris Removal Program. The program offers a comprehensive clean up solution to get properties cleared of debris and ready to start the rebuilding process. The program uses funding from homeowner's insurance, county, state and federal sources, with no out-of-pocket expense to the homeowner.

Officials also report that owners of 135 properties chose to clean up their properties by other means. Owners of the remaining 134 properties have yet to advise the County of their property clean up intentions and status. Owners of damaged properties not enrolled in the County program must tell the County how and when their property will be cleaned up. The County's goal is to have all affected properties cleaned up by spring so rebuilding can begin and to avoid the blighted remnants of homes it experienced from previous disasters. Failure to advise the County may result in enforcement action.

There are three ways property owners can get this information to the County:

1. Fill out and return the postage paid reply card enclosed with the latest mailing from the County (dated February 7, 2008).
2. Call the Debris Removal Center at 909-867-7579 or the Solid Waste Management Division at 909-386-8701.
3. Via e-mail remembering to include the Assessor Parcel Number, Property Owners Name and Contact Phone number to solidwaste@swm.sbcounty.gov

The County sponsored Debris Removal Program recently reached agreement with CalOSHA on a way to safely remove debris in snow conditions. This new protocol will result in fewer "snow days" which has slowed down property clean up. Since adopting this new protocol on February 12, 2008, the Program has been able to have six clean up crews working averaging three properties being cleaned per day. The Program has completed cleaning up 21 properties since it began on December 26, 2007.

To update debris removal status, debris removal information or to enroll in the Debris Removal Program; property owners should call the Debris Removal Center, at 909-867-7579. Owners can also go to the Debris Center located at 2677 Whispering Pines Drive; Running Springs open 10am-4pm weekdays and 10am-3pm on Saturdays. They may also call County Solid Waste Management at 909-386-8701.

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